

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /077 W

----- 103835

R 191506Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0696

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OUAGADOUGOU 3160

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UV

SUBJ: GENERAL STRIKE OBSERVED THROUGHOUT UPPER

VOLTA DECEMBER 17-18

REF: OUAGADOUGOU 3126

1. THE GENERAL STRIKE ORGANIZED BY VOLTAN TRADE
UNIONS ON DECEMBER 17 AND 18 WAS OBSERVED BY PRACTICALLY
ALL SALARIED WORKERS AND CIVIL SERVANTS THROUGHOUT UPPER
VOLTA. ONLY A FEW HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS SHOWED
UP FOR WORK AT THE VARIOUS MINISTERIES. ALL THE SCHOOLS
WERE CLOSED. CONTRARY TO PREVIOUS UNDERSTANDING REPORTEDLY
REACHED BETWEEN PRESIDENT LAMIZANA AND TRADE UNION
LEADERS, THE AIRPORT IN OUAGADOUGOU WAS CLOSED
AND THE SUPPLY OF WATER AND ELECTRICITY WAS SPOTTY
DURING THE TWO-DAY PERIOD. MEMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
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AT THE OUAGADOUGOU HOSPITAL WERE TAKEN OVER BY THE ARMY.

2. AS FAR AS WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ASCERTAIN, THERE WERE NO DISORDERS AND NO DEMONSTRATIONS. WHILE SMALL GROUPS OF ARMED SOLDIERS COULD BE SEEN IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE CITY, THERE WAS NO LARGE DISPLAY OF FORCE BY THE GOVERNMENT.

3. ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCES, TRADE UNION LEADERS CONSIDER THE TWO-DAY STRIKE AS A WARNING TO THE GOVERNMENT. THEY THREATEN TO CALL FOR AN UNLIMITED GENERAL STRIKE IN JANUARY IF THE GOUV DOES NOT ACCEDE TO THEIR DEMANDS. THEY ARE INSISTING PARTICULARLY ON THE DISMISSAL OF MINISTER OF PLAN DAKOURE AND MINISTER OF FINANCE GARANGO WHOM THEY CONSIDER AS CORRUPT AND TOO PRO-FRENCH. MINISTER OF YOUTH AND SPORTS TIENTARABOUM IS NOW ALSO REPORTEDLY UNDER ATTACK BECAUSE OF HIS "DICTATORIAL ATTITUDE" TOWARDS YOUTH AND SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS.
GRAHAM

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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TAGS: PINT, UV, (DAKOURE, ANTOINE), (GARANGO, TIEMOKO MARC)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006